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83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7057

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1954

Mr. HARRISON of Wyoming introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3   That, in order to assure the most beneficial application of  
4   the available water supply to lands within the Eden project,  
5   Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the  
6   item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects"  
7   in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10,  
8   1939 (53 Stat. 685, 719), as amended, including the Act  
9   of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land  
10   settlement and land use:

1       (a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized,  
2 in his discretion and when the public interest will be  
3 benefited thereby—

4           (1) to exchange public lands in the State of  
5 Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the  
6 project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal  
7 value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
8 which are adaptable for use in the construction, opera-  
9 tion or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

10          (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agricul-  
11 ture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of  
12 Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries  
13 of the project which are suitable for development and  
14 settlement; and

15          (3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal hold-  
16 ings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in  
18 the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries  
19 of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately  
20 equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
21 which are suitable for development and, upon consum-  
22 mation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange  
23 shall thereupon become a part of the project and sub-  
24 ject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized  
2 and directed—

3 (1) when in his judgment the public interests will  
4 be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his juris-  
5 diction within the exterior boundaries of the project  
6 for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value  
7 within the boundaries of the project which he finds are  
8 suitable for project development and settlement; and

9 (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary  
11 of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are  
12 adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or  
13 maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are un-  
14 suited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus  
15 to the needs of the project.

16 (c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a)  
18 (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sec-  
19 tions (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled,  
20 disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner  
21 as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred  
22 to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under  
23 the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under  
24 the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use

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## A BILL

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To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

---

By Mr. HARRISON of Wyoming

---

JANUARY 7, 1954

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular  
Affairs

1 in the construction, operation or maintenance of project  
2 irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received  
3 in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall  
4 be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all  
5 respects the same as other project lands under his juris-  
6 diction.









# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Issued February 18, 1954

For actions of February 17, 1954

83rd-2nd, No. 30

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate committee reported Mexican farm labor measure. Senate committee ordered reported forest grazing policies bill. House recommitted public-for-private timberlands exchange bill. House received President's omnibus appropriation estimate. Rep. Poage spoke against flexible price supports. Rep. Hays criticized Secretary's reduction of dairy price supports. Reps. Javits and Kelly favored Secretary's reduction of butter price supports. Sen. Thyne and Rep. Laird introduced, and Sen. Thyne discussed, bills to limit price support reductions on dairy products.

## HOUSE

1. FOREST LANDS. Recommitted by a roll call vote of 226 to 161 H.R. 4646, the public-for-private timberland transfer bill, upon a motion of Rep. Metcalf (pp. 1830-43, A1280, A1310-11).
2. DAIRY PRODUCTS. Rep. Javits stated that he hoped consumers would buy more butter as a result of the Secretary's action in reducing butter price supports, and urged consumer support of this action (p. 1827).  
Rep. Hays claimed that the Secretary's reduction of dairy price supports would not help the consumer much but would be "another gift to the processor at the expense of the farmer" (p. 1827).
3. PRICE SUPPORTS. Rep. Poage spoke on the need for price supports for farmers and opposed the Secretary's flexible price support program, calling it the "Benson-Kline plan" (pp. 1844-46).
4. PROPERTY TRANSFER. The Government Operations Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) H.R. 5605, amending the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act to provide that transfers of real property from certain Government

corporations to other Government agencies shall not operate to remove such real property from local tax rolls (p. D160).

5. CATALOGING. The Government Operations Committee adopted the Eighth Intermediate Report of the Subcommittee on Military Operations "Federal Cataloging Program" (p. D160).
6. RECLAMATION. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee approved for reporting (but did not actually report) H.R. 7057, to authorize transfer, exchange, and disposition of land in the Eden Project, Wyo., and H.R. 7194, to approve repayment contracts negotiated with the Hermiston and West Extension Irrigation Districts, Ore. (p. D160).
7. APPROPRIATIONS. Received from the President an omnibus budget estimate for fiscal year 1954 (H. Doc. 330) (p. 1860). This estimate includes the following: for fighting forest fires, \$4,500,000; increase in CCC administrative-expense limitation, \$3,000,000; and an increase in limitation for emergency feed assistance from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000 (this does not involve an additional appropriation of \$10,000,000 but instead provides a change in the distribution of funds available under the Disaster Loan Revolving Fund).  
Received from the President a budget estimate for payment of claims for damages, audited claims and judgments rendered against the U.S. (H. Doc. 329) (p. 1860).
8. TAXATION; RETIREMENT. The House Ways and Means Committee agreed to exclude from taxation retirement income up to \$1200. This exclusion is available to those over 65 receiving dividend, interest, pension, or annuity income and those under 65 who have retired under a public or private retirement plan. (p. D161).
9. ALASKA STATEHOOD. Rep. Price urged the signing of a discharge petition to bring H.R. 2982, the Alaska statehood bill, up for consideration (p. 1827).
10. ORGANIZATION. Received a Mass. Legislature memorial urging Congress to prevent the Government from engaging in any business or enterprise except as specified in the constitution (p. 1861).
11. TREATIES. Received a petition requesting passage of the Bricker amendment to limit the President's treaty power (p. 1862).
12. COFFEE PRICES. Received a Baltimore legislature petition requesting an investigation of the high price of coffee (p. 1862).

#### SENATE

13. FARM LABOR. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendments S. J. Res. 121, to authorize the Labor Department to carry on its program of placing Mexican farmworkers in temporary agricultural jobs in this country pending the negotiation of a new agreement with Mexico or, if after every practicable effort it is impossible to reach a new agreement, in the absence of such agreement (S. Rept. 985) (p. 1784).
14. FOREST GRAZING LANDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) S. 2548, to facilitate the administration, orderly use, improvement, and development of USDA grazing lands (p. D157).







# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued March 3, 1954  
For actions of March 2, 1954  
83rd-2nd, No. 39

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HIGHLIGHTS: House passed Mexican farm labor bill. House Rules Committee cleared watershed bill and CCC-borrowing bill. House subcommittee voted for limitation on reduction in dairy price supports. Rep. Curtis defended USDA regarding drought relief in Mo. Rep. Metcalf recommended wool import control. Senate passed 2nd supplemental appropriation bill; sent to conference. Sen. Aiken introduced and discussed bill on price supports, etc. Rep. Whitten introduced bill to create Agricultural Foreign Service.

## HOUSE

1. FARM LABOR. Passed without amendment H. J. Res. 355, to continue the Mexican farm labor program in the absence of an agreement with Mexico. Recommitted, 156-250, a motion by Rep. Shelley to recommit the measure. (pp. 2355,2357-82).
2. SOIL CONSERVATION. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for consideration of H. R. 6788, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with States and local agencies in the planning and carrying out of works of improvement for soil conservation (p. 2354). It is expected that this bill will be debated Thurs. (p. 2386).
3. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for consideration of H. R. 7339, to increase the borrowing power of CCC (p. 2386). It is expected that this bill will be debated Fri. (p. 2386).
4. PRICE SUPPORTS. The "Daily Digest" states: "Chairman Andresen of the Special Dairy Subcommittee, following an executive session, stated that his subcommittee discussed the dairy situation today, and in particular the effect of the recent order of the Secretary of Agriculture to reduce the support price on dairy products from 90 to 75 percent of parity. He added that the group went on record that any reduction made in the support price of dairy products should be limited to not more than 5 percent in any 1 marketing year; and that he was to report today's action to the full committee for prompt attention and, if necessary,



conduct open hearings on the dairy support program. It is anticipated that the full committee will consider the dairy problem in connection with the general farm legislation for which hearings will begin March 10." (p. D218.)

5. SOIL CONSERVATION. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee voted to report (but did not actually report) H. R. 7057, to authorize transfer, exchange, and disposition of land in the Eden project, Wyo. (p. D219).

6. WOOL IMPORTS. Rep. Metcalf recommended control of wool imports (p. 2357).

7. DROUGHT RELIEF. Rep. Curtis, Mo., defended this Department in connection with the controversy on drought relief in Mo. (pp. 2384-5).

8. TRANSPORTATION. Rep. Tollefson urged an adequate American merchant marine (pp. 2389-93).

Rep. Lane criticized the St. Lawrence seaway project (p. 2385-6).

#### SENATE

9. SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954. Passed as reported this bill, H. 7996. Conferees were appointed in both Houses. (pp. 2339, 2349, 2351, 2386.) The bill includes items for the Hoover Commission, the President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization, and judgments and claims.

10. DAIRY INDUSTRY. Sen. Wiley inserted a newspaper article pointing out Wisconsin's high dairy production, and a Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer article criticizing the reduction in dairy price supports (p. 2321).

11. DISBURSING. The Banking and Currency Committee reported with amendments S. 2344, to make permanent the authorization of certain transactions by U. S. disbursing officers (S. Rept. 1038)(p. 2319).

12. TREATIES. Sen. Lennon made a motion to reconsider the vote on S. J. Res. 1, the Bricker treaty amendment (pp. 2330-1).

13. ELECTRIFICATION. Received a Ky. Legislature resolution urging adequate funds for TVA, and a National Rural Electric Cooperative Association resolution relating to appropriations for SPA (p. 2318).

14. COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION. Sen. Williams submitted amendments which he intends to propose to S. 2714, to increase CCC borrowing power (p. 2319). Majority Leader Knowland stated his intention that this bill be considered today (Mar. 3), and Sen. Williams said he would oppose its consideration (p. 2349).

15. FARM LABOR. Discussed and passed over S. J. Res. 121, to continue the Mexican farm labor program, on objection of Sen. Cooper and others (p. 2333). Majority Leader Knowland stated his intention that this measure be considered Thurs., Mar. 4 (p. 2349).

16. BANKRUPTCY. Received from the Administrator, Office of the U. S. Courts, proposed amendments to the Bankruptcy Act (p. 2318).

17. ALASKA STATEHOOD. Passed over S. 50, the Alaska statehood bill, upon objection of Sen. Bush (p. 2339).

## AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURE AND INTERIOR TO TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN THE EDEN PROJECT, WYOMING

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MARCH 4, 1954.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. MILLER of Nebraska, from the Committee on Interior and Insular  
Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7057]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7057) to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, in order to assure the most beneficial application of the water supply available for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources.

The Eden project, located in Sweetwater County, Wyo., was originally authorized in 1940 and reauthorized in 1949. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to complete the land development and settlement features of the project. Lands within the project area include private lands, public-domain lands, State lands, and lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture for irrigation development and settlement.

Extensive land and soil surveys in the Eden project area reveal that some public domain and State lands are of better quality and more favorably located for irrigation purposes than portions of the lands



## 2 TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT

under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, and that exchanges would be desirable. The surveys also disclose that in several instances it would be desirable that private land be exchanged for public domain and lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture which are more adaptable for irrigation.

This bill would permit: (1) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to make cooperative agreements for the transfer of jurisdiction on lands owned by the United States, (2) the exchange of federally owned lands for private lands, and (3) the Secretary of Agriculture to dispose of transferred public lands within the project to the settlers in the same manner and upon the same conditions as the lands under his jurisdiction.

Further information is given in the favorable reports of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, which are set forth below:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1954.

HON. A. L. MILLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR DR. MILLER: Your committee has requested a report from this Department on H. R. 7057, a bill to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

We recommend that this bill be enacted.

The Eden project, located in Wyoming, was originally authorized by the President on September 18, 1940, acting under the authority of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1940 (53 Stat. 685, 719). Construction of the Big Sandy Dam, the principal feature of the project, was terminated by order of the War Production Board in December 1942, when the dam was approximately 16 percent complete. The project was reauthorized by the act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), which also authorized the Secretary of the Interior to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to complete the land development and settlement features in accordance with the general plan approved by the President on September 18, 1940.

Land within the project area include: (a) Private lands, (b) public-domain lands, (c) State lands and (d) lands patented to the State of Wyoming under the Carey Act but subsequently reconveyed to the United States and placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture for irrigation development and settlement, hereinafter referred to as acquired lands. Extensive land and soil surveys have been made in the Eden project area. These surveys reveal that some public domain and State lands are of better quality and more favorably located for irrigation purposes than portions of the acquired lands. Many farm units, as tentatively established, contain both public domain and acquired lands. Under the existing public-land laws, the Secretary of the Interior may dispose of public-domain lands only to settlers after homestead entry. He has no authority to transfer jurisdiction of such lands to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture, we understand, proposes to convey title to acquired lands to settlers upon payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price and to take a mortgage to secure payment of the balance due. Obviously, it would be unsatisfactory to follow a procedure whereby the settler would receive a deed and give a purchase-money mortgage covering only a part of his farm and would make a homestead entry to obtain title to the remainder when, as a matter of fact, neither portion of the farm would constitute an economic farm unit by itself. Such procedure could lead to disintegration of many economic-sized farm units in the project.

Land and soil surveys disclose that private land may in several instances be exchanged for public domain and acquired lands which are more adaptable to irrigation. Similar exchanges would facilitate negotiations for rights-of-way required for the construction of the project works.

H. R. 7057 would permit: (a) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to make cooperative agreements for the transfer of jurisdiction of

## TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT 3

lands owned by the United States; (b) the exchange of federally owned lands for private lands; (c) the Secretary of Agriculture to dispose of the transferred public lands within the project to the settlers in the same manner and upon the same conditions as acquired lands; and (d) the Secretary of the Interior to administer the transferred and exchanged acquired lands as public lands, except lands needed for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the project irrigation facilities.

The enactment of this bill would assure the most beneficial application of the water supply available for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there would be no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

FRED G. AANDAHL,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
*Washington, D. C., February 16, 1954.*

HON. A. L. MILLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. MILLER: This is in response to your request of January 8, 1954, for a report by this Department regarding H. R. 7057, a bill to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

The Eden project, located in the State of Wyoming, was originally authorized by the President on September 18, 1940, acting under the authority of the Interior Department Appropriation Act of 1940 (53 Stat. 685). Construction of the Big Sandy Dam, to provide the primary water supply, was terminated by order of the War Production Board in December 1942 when the dam was approximately 16 percent complete. The project was reauthorized by the act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), which directed the Secretary of the Interior to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project, and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to complete the land development and settlement features in accordance with the general plan approved by the President on September 18, 1940.

The Department of the Interior has now completed the Big Sandy Dam and stored irrigation water is available in the reservoir. The canal and lateral system to deliver water to the land is partially constructed. The repayment contract between the Eden Valley Irrigation and Drainage District and the United States has been executed.

The Department of Agriculture is proceeding with the development of lands which can be served by the constructed portion of the new canal system. Because of a serious wind-erosion problem, land clearing and leveling should not be done on this erosive-type soil until irrigation water can be applied and the land protected by growing crops.

Lands within the project area include: (a) Private lands, (b) public domain, (c) State lands, and (d) lands hereinafter referred to as acquired lands, consisting of lands purchased from private owners, together with lands patented to the State of Wyoming under the Carey Act and subsequently reconveyed to the United States and placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, for irrigation development and settlement. Onsite studies by representatives of the two Departments have established the desirability of substituting some private lands, public domain, and State lands for portions of acquired lands. Informal agreements on the proposed exchanges have been reached among the agencies having administrative responsibility for the lands to be affected.

We are informed that, under the existing public-land laws, the Secretary of the Interior may dispose of public-domain lands to settlers under a homestead entry, but has no authority to transfer jurisdiction of such lands to the Secretary of Agriculture. Under present legislation, the Secretary of Agriculture has no authority to expend land-development funds, appropriated under water conservation and utilization legislation, for development and settlement of public-domain lands. H. R. 7057 would permit such lands in the Eden project to be developed and settled in the same manner and upon the same conditions as acquired lands by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to transfer jurisdiction of public-domain lands in the project to the Secretary of Agriculture.

#### 4 TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT

Also, by authorizing the exchange of federally owned lands in the State of Wyoming for non-Federal lands within the project boundaries, and the transfer between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior of jurisdiction of lands within the project owned by the United States, the bill would permit the development and settlement of lands within the project area which are more adaptable to irrigation than some portions of the acquired lands; permit the consolidation of Federal holdings of lands in the project; and facilitate negotiations for rights-of-way required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the project works.

H. R. 7057 thus would permit the most beneficial application of the available water supply for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources. Enactment would permit the two Departments to immediately plan the most efficient and economical project-development program.

The Department strongly recommends that the bill be passed.

The Bureau of the Budget advised that, from the standpoint of the program of the President, there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

TRUE D. MORSE, *Under Secretary.*

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs unanimously recommends the enactment of H. R. 7057.





Union Calendar No. 485

83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7057

[Report No. 1305]

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1954

Mr. HARRISON of Wyoming introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

MARCH 4, 1954

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

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1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That, in order to assure the most beneficial application of  
4       the available water supply to lands within the Eden project,  
5       Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the  
6       item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects"  
7       in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10,  
8       1939 (53 Stat. 685, 719), as amended, including the Act  
9       of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land  
10      settlement and land use:

1       (a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized,  
2 in his discretion and when the public interest will be bene-  
3 fited thereby—

4           (1) to exchange public lands in the State of  
5 Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the  
6 project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal  
7 value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
8 which are adaptable for use in the construction, opera-  
9 tion, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

10          (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agricul-  
11 ture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of  
12 Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries  
13 of the project which are suitable for development and  
14 settlement; and

15          (3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal hold-  
16 ings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in  
18 the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries  
19 of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately  
20 equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
21 which are suitable for development and, upon consum-  
22 mation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange  
23 shall thereupon become a part of the project and sub-  
24 ject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized  
2 and directed—

3 (1) when in his judgment the public interests will  
4 be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his juris-  
5 diction within the exterior boundaries of the project  
6 for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value  
7 within the boundaries of the project which he finds are  
8 suitable for project development and settlement; and

9 (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary  
11 of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are  
12 adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or  
13 maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are un-  
14 suited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus  
15 to the needs of the project.

16 (c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a)  
18 (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sec-  
19 tions (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled,  
20 disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner  
21 as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred  
22 to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under  
23 the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under  
24 the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use

1 in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project  
 2 irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received  
 3 in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall  
 4 be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all respects  
 5 the same as other project lands under his jurisdiction.

Union Calendar No. 485

83d CONGRESS  
 2d Session

H. R. 7057

[Report No. 1305]

# A BILL

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and  
 Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose  
 of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and  
 for other purposes.

By Mr. HARRISON of Wyoming

JANUARY 7, 1954

Referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular  
 Affairs

MARCH 4, 1954

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on  
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# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Issued March 16, 1954

For actions of March 15, 1954

83rd-2nd, No. 48

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate passed Mexican farm labor appropriation measure; conferees appointed. Senate committee reported bill to broaden Justice Department authority to investigate crimes. Senate committee voted to report building purchase-agreement bill.. House passed Eden SCS project bill. Rep. Jones, Mo., criticized Secretary for disclaiming knowledge of protests against reduction in cottonseed price supports. Sen. Aiken, Reps. Hope and Abernethy introduced bills to expand water-facilities loan program.

## SENATE

1. FARM-LABOR APPROPRIATION. Passed with amendment H. J. Res. 461, to appropriate additional funds to the Labor Department to carry out the Mexican farm labor program. Agreed to an amendment by Sens. Johnson (Tex.) and Daniel to increase the amount from \$478,000 to \$542,000. Senate conferees were appointed. (pp. 3045-7.)
2. CRIME INVESTIGATIONS. The Judiciary Committee reported with amendment S. 2308, to increase the power of the Justice Department to investigate crimes in connection with Government activities (S. Rept. 1079)(p. 3018).
3. BUILDINGS. The Public Works Committee voted to report (but did not actually report) H. R. 6342, to authorize GSA to acquire title to real property and to provide for construction of certain public buildings thereon by executing purchase contracts (p. D277).
4. PERSONNEL. The Judiciary Committee indefinitely postponed further action on S. 43, prohibiting Government personnel from accepting payments for retention in employment (p. D277).
5. STATEHOOD. Continued debate on S. 49, the Hawaii-Alaska statehood bill (pp. 3047-8).



6. TAXATION. Sen. Fulbright spoke in favor of additional tax relief for low-income people, mentioning particularly low-income, part-time farmers who have lost their city jobs. In this connection he urged actions to increase consumption of farm products but said lower prices to farmers do not mean significant decreases in consumer prices. (pp. 3037-71.)
7. FOREST GRAZING. Sen. Aiken inserted a letter from the National Wildlife Federation favoring S. 2548, to regulate forest grazing practices, as passed by the Senate (p. 3047).
8. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY. Sen. Wiley spoke in favor of this project and inserted statements regarding it (pp. 3019-20).

#### HOUSE

9. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment H. R. 7057, authorizing USDA and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyo. (p. 3057).
10. PRICE SUPPORTS. Rep. Jones, Mo., criticized Secretary Benson for disclaiming knowledge of protests filed with USDA as a result of the reduction of cotton-seed price supports from 90% to 75% (p. 3052).
11. STATISTICS. Passed without amendment S. 2348, to repeal the act authorizing the Census Bureau to collect and publish statistics of red-cedar shingles (p. 3058). This bill will now be sent to the President.
12. RECLAMATION. Passed without amendment H. R. 4721, to provide that the excess-land provisions of the Federal reclamation laws shall not apply to lands in the Owl Creek unit, Missouri Basin project (p. 3055).
13. FLOOD-CONTROL APPROPRIATIONS. Began debate on H. R. 8367, the Army civil functions appropriation bill for 1955 (pp. 3062-83).
14. HOLIDAY. Passed without amendment H. R. 7786, to change the name of Armistice Day to "Veterans Day" (pp. 3059-60).
15. REPORTS were received as follows: Treasury report on state of finances for fiscal year 1953 (H. Doc. 245); ODM report on stockpiling (p. 3098).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

16. WATER-FACILITIES LOANS. S. 3137, by Sen. Aiken (for himself and Sens. Thyne, Schoeppel, and Eastland); H. R. 8386, by Rep. Hope; and H. R. 8398, by Rep. Abernethy, to amend the Water Facilities Act so as to make it applicable to the entire U. S. and to increase and revise the limitation on aid under the Act; to Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 3019) and House Agriculture Committee (p. 3099).
17. FORESTRY. S. 3133, by Sen. Cordon, "to amend the act entitled 'An act to facilitate and simplify the work of the Forest Service...'" to Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 3019).
18. RECLAMATION. S. 3134, by Sen. Cordon, and H. R. 8384, by Rep. Ellsworth, to authorize the Talent division of the Rogue River Basin reclamation project, Oreg.; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committees (pp. 3019, 3099).
19. TRANSPORTATION. H. R. 8381, by Rep. Cooley, to provide that in certain cases



The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### LAKE OF THE WOODS

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 2098) to provide for the compensation of certain persons whose lands have been flooded and damaged by reason of fluctuations in the water level of the Lake of the Woods.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. BYRNES of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that this bill go over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BYRNES]?

There was no objection.

### EDEN PROJECT, WYOMING

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 7057) to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That in order to assure the most beneficial application of the available water supply to lands within the Eden project, Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects" in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10, 1939 (53 Stat. 685, 719), as amended, including the act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land settlement and land use:

(a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion and when the public interest will be benefited thereby—

(1) to exchange public lands in the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project which are adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

(2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries of the project which are suitable for development and settlement; and

(3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal holdings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project which are suitable for development and, upon consummation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange shall thereupon become a part of the project and subject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed—

(1) when in his judgment the public interests will be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his jurisdiction within the exterior boundaries of the project for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the boundaries of the project which he finds are suitable for project development and settlement; and

(2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, to transfer to the jurisdiction

of the Secretary of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are unsuited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus to the needs of the project.

(c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a) (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sections (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled, disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all respects the same as other project lands under his jurisdiction.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### FACILITATING ENTRY OF PHILIPPINE TRADERS

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 8092) to facilitate the entry of Philippine traders.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That, upon a basis of reciprocity secured by agreement entered into by the President of the United States and the President of the Philippines, a national of the Philippines, and the spouse and children of any such national if accompanying or following to join him, shall, if otherwise eligible for a visa and if otherwise admissible into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act (66 Stat. 163), be issued a visa and admitted into the United States under the provisions of section 101 (a) (15) (E) of said act if entering solely for the purposes specified in subsection (i) or (ii) of said section.

Mr. REED of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks at this point in the RECORD, and to include a letter.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

Mr. REED of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this bill—to facilitate the entry of Philippine traders—introduced at the request of the Secretary of State, places American businessmen in the Philippines and Philippine businessmen in the United States in the status normally enjoyed by so-called treaty traders.

The need for this legislation arose from the fact that in order to confer the status of treaty traders on foreign nationals in the United States, there must be a treaty of commerce and navigation in existence.

Our treaty with the Philippines has expired and a new treaty is being negotiated right now. In the meantime, however, business must go on, and it would be highly undesirable if our businessmen would have to leave the Philippines and the Philippine businessmen would have to go home during these negotiations.

THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.,  
New York, N. Y., March 3, 1954.

The Honorable CHAUNCEY W. REED,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington,  
D. C.

DEAR MR. REED: With reference to bill H. R. 8092, to facilitate the entry of Philippine traders, introduced in the House of Representatives on February 25, 1954, the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce wishes to go on record as being in full accord with the provisions of this bill. We feel its early passage would materially improve United States-Philippines relations. On the other hand, delay in the passage of this bill may result in some eventuality which may impair the friendly relations which have for so long existed between the two countries. We, therefore, urgently recommend that prompt and favorable consideration be given this bill by your committee.

May we inform you that the chamber has had under consideration for many months the views of its members concerning any modification in the present provisions of the Philippine Trade Act of 1946 and the agreement on trade and related matters between the United States and the Philippines which was entered into pursuant to that act. Our views were submitted, by letter, on December 29, 1953, to the Chairman of the Interdepartmental Philippine Trade Agreement Committee, Department of State, Washington, D. C., and incorporated in the annual report of our board of directors which was submitted to all members last January. The following is an extract from the aforementioned letter:

"(6) Immigration: Concerning the entry of Americans into the Philippines and Filipinos into the United States, we feel that an arrangement similar to the one contained in the trade agreement should be provided for in a revision of the Trade Act. We strongly support any legislation by our Congress whereby Filipinos will have treaty merchant status; any revision of the Trade Act should be reciprocal for Americans in the Philippines, such provisions to remain in effect for the duration of the Trade Act, as amended."

For your information and guidance, the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce was incorporated in the State of New York on March 18, 1920, to foster and promote trade, commerce, mutual welfare, and other business relations between the United States and the Philippines, and their respective peoples, and to serve those persons and organizations having financial, trade, business, and professional interests in either or both countries.

A list of the officers and directors of the chamber is attached.

Very truly yours,

THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE, INC.,  
W. E. MURRAY, President.

THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE, INC., 1954

#### Officers

W. E. Murray, president; H. A. Magnuson, vice, president; George Hampton, vice president; H. H. Herts, vice president; F. M. Satterfield, treasurer; Col. John F. Daye, secretary.

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(Term expires annual meeting January 1955)

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son, chairman executive committee, Insular Lumber Co.

(Term expires annual meeting January 1956)

A. A. Alexander, vice president, American President Lines, Ltd.; Wm. Knight, Hanson & Orth; J. J. McCabe, president, Ledward, Bibby & Co., Inc.; T. H. Mitchell, president, RCA Communications, Inc.; W. E. Murray, manager, Central Asiatic area, California Texas Oil Co., Ltd.; H. W. Taylor, vice president, Centennial Flouring Mills Co.

(Term expires annual meeting January 1957)

K. J. Brown, vice president and secretary, American International Underwriters Corp.; Geo. Hampton, vice president, General Foods Corp.; H. H. Herts, president, Dayton, Price & Co., Ltd.; M. J. Ossorio, Victorias Milling Co., Inc.; L. D. Seymour, president, L. D. Seymour & Co., Inc.; L. W. Wirth, vice president, Neuss, Hesslein & Co., Inc.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SPECIAL PRAYERS ON APRIL 18

The Clerk called the resolution (S. Con. Res. 63) requesting churches and synagogues to give special prayers on Easter Sunday for those denied freedom to worship behind the Iron Curtain.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Whereas our country has, from its beginning, been inspired by God and its citizens throughout its history have sought His divine guidance; and

Whereas the dictatorship of communism is based upon atheism and directed toward the complete destruction of all religious worship; and

Whereas this atheistic dictatorship has subjected religious leaders and their congregations to barbaric persecutions such as the world has not seen for nearly 2,000 years, as exemplified in Hungary by the torture of Cardinal Mindszenty and Lutheran Bishop Lajos Ordass, in Poland by the incarceration of Cardinal Wyszynski, in Yugoslavia by the imprisonment of Archbishop Stepinac, in Bulgaria by the oppression of Protestant ministers, and by the persecution of Jews throughout the area dominated by communism; and

Whereas millions of worshipers behind the Iron Curtain are prevented by force and violence from the free exercise of their religious beliefs and rituals: Therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That the Congress reverently requests the churches and synagogues of America to set aside a portion of their services on Easter Sunday and on the first day of Passover in 1954, both of which fall on April 18, for special prayers for the deliverance of all those behind the Iron Curtain who are denied freedom to worship in their own fashion.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 2, line 2, after the word "Congress", strike out "reverently requests" and insert "respectfully suggests that."

Line 4, strike out the word "to."

Line 8, after the word "own", strike out the word "fashion" and insert the word "way."

The resolution was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution requesting American churches and synagogues to give special prayers on April 18 (Easter

and the Passover) for deliverance of those behind the Iron Curtain."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMENDING REFUGEE RELIEF ACT OF 1953

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 8193) to amend the Refugee Relief Act of 1953.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, is not the purpose of this bill to reunite the families of people who are living in this country with relatives abroad? When the Relief Act was passed, there was a certain number designated as refugees. The demand for those to come is much smaller than the numbers needed to reunite families and the 7-month period of operation demonstrates the need for a larger number; is that correct, and is it the intention that all laws and regulations pertaining to immigration are applicable to the Refugee Relief Act and to this amendment?

Mr. GRAHAM. That is correct.

Mr. WALTER. It will not increase overall the number of people admitted?

Mr. GRAHAM. It will not.

Mr. WALTER. I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mr. KILDAY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I should like to ask a question of the chairman of the committee.

Under the bill it is provided to legalize the entry of those persons brought to the United States from other American Republics for internment. The report seems to limit those to Japanese brought from Peru.

I should like to ask the chairman if it is the intent of the bill to include persons of any origin brought from all American Republics for internment or for the convenience of the Government of the United States.

Mr. GRAHAM. There is nothing in the law which would confine this to Japanese nationals. It applies to anyone brought into the United States for internment from any other country.

Mr. KILDAY. From all the American Republics?

Mr. GRAHAM. Yes.

Mr. KILDAY. I withdraw my reservation of objection, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That subdivision (c) be added to section 4 of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 (67 Stat. 401), to read as follows:

"(c) Any allotments of visas provided in paragraphs (5) and (6), paragraphs (7) and (8), and paragraphs (9) and (10) of subsection (a) of this section, shall be available bilaterally within each of the three ethnic groups therein defined."

Sec. 2. Subdivision (c) of section 5 of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 (67 Stat. 403) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(c) The assurances required in this section shall be in lieu of the assurances required in section 7 of this act, and the provisions of section 7 (d) (2) shall not apply to eligible orphans as defined in this section."

Sec. 3. The first sentence of section 6 of the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 (67 Stat. 403)

is hereby amended to read as follows: "Any alien who establishes that prior to July 1, 1953, he lawfully entered the United States as a bona fide nonimmigrant and that he is unable to return to the country of his birth, nationality, and last residence because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, or who was brought to the United States from other American Republics for internment, may, not later than June 30, 1955, apply to the Attorney General of the United States for an adjustment of his immigration status."

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### STATISTICS OF REDCEDAR SHINGLES

The Clerk called the bill (S. 2348) to repeal the act entitled "An act to authorize the Director of the Census to collect and publish statistics of redcedar shingles."

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the act entitled "An act to authorize the Director of the Census to collect and publish statistics of redcedar shingles," approved May 25, 1937 (50 Stat. 204, 205) be, and it is hereby, repealed.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RIGHTS OF PRIORITY OF NATIONALS OF JAPAN AND CERTAIN NATIONALS OF GERMANY AS TO APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 6280) to extend temporarily the rights of priority of nationals of Japan and certain nationals of Germany with respect to applications for patents.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the rights of priority specified in section 1 of Public Law 690, 79th Congress, approved August 8, 1946 (60 Stat. 940), which arose before April 1, 1950, are hereby extended, with respect to inventions made subsequent to January 1, 1946, in favor of nationals of Japan, and of nationals of Germany, excluding persons residing in or subject to the jurisdiction of the zone of Germany occupied by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Soviet sector of Berlin or other areas of Germany under Soviet or Polish administration, to a date 9 months after the enactment of this act, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in sections 1, 4, 10, 12, and 15 of said Public Law 690.

For the purpose of this act, the phrase "passage of this act" in said Public Law 690 shall be understood to refer to the date of enactment of the present act.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### BOUNDARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN ALABAMA AND FLORIDA

The Clerk called the resolution (H. J. Res. 347) giving the consent of Congress to an agreement between the State of







83D CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7057

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16 (legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

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## AN ACT

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That, in order to assure the most beneficial application of  
4       the available water supply to lands within the Eden project,  
5       Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the  
6       item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects"  
7       in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10,  
8       1939 (53 Stat. 685, 719), as amended, including the Act  
9       of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land  
10      settlement and land use:

1       (a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized,  
2 in his discretion and when the public interest will be bene-  
3 fitted thereby—

4           (1) to exchange public lands in the State of  
5 Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the  
6 project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal  
7 value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
8 which are adaptable for use in the construction, opera-  
9 tion, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

10          (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agricul-  
11 ture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of  
12 Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries  
13 of the project which are suitable for development and  
14 settlement; and

15          (3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal hold-  
16 ings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in  
18 the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries  
19 of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately  
20 equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
21 which are suitable for development and, upon consum-  
22 mation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange  
23 shall thereupon become a part of the project and sub-  
24 ject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized  
2 and directed—

3 (1) when in his judgment the public interests will  
4 be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his juris-  
5 diction within the exterior boundaries of the project  
6 for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value  
7 within the boundaries of the project which he finds are  
8 suitable for project development and settlement; and

9 (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary  
11 of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are  
12 adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or  
13 maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are un-  
14 suited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus  
15 to the needs of the project.

16 (c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a)  
18 (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sec-  
19 tions (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled,  
20 disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner  
21 as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred  
22 to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under  
23 the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under  
24 the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use

1 in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project  
2 irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received  
3 in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall  
4 be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all respects  
5 the same as other project lands under his jurisdiction.

Passed the House of Representatives March 15, 1954.

Attest:

LYLE O. SNADER,

*Clerk.*



AN ACT

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

MARCH 16 (Legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs







# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued May 12, 1954  
For actions of May 11, 1954  
83rd-2nd, No. 86

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HIGHLIGHTS: House passed bill to amend Standard Container Act. House committee voted to report emergency farm loans bill. Senate committee reported O&C-land jurisdiction bill. Senate debated bill to speed up ICC rate decisions.

## HOUSE

1. CONTAINERS. Passed as reported H. R. 8357, to amend the Standard Container Act so as to authorize a 3/8 bushel basket for fruits and vegetables (pp. 6052-60).
2. FARM LOANS. The Agriculture Committee voted to report (but did not actually report) S. 3245, to eliminate the requirement that economic disaster loans be restricted to areas designated by the President and to make \$15,000,000 available for economic emergency loans. The committee agreed to several amendments to the bill, one of which would enable such loans to be made until June 30, 1955. (pp. D510-11.)
3. COPPER IMPORTS. Passed as reported H. R. 7709, to extend the date of suspension of certain import taxes on copper to June 30, 1956 (pp. 6024-5).

## SENATE

4. FORESTRY. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendments S. 2225, relating to jurisdiction over certain O&C grant lands in Oregon (S. Rept. 1314)(p. 5977).
5. SOIL CONSERVATION. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7057, to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyo. (S. Rept. 1317)(p. 5977).
6. RECLAMATION. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendments S. 118, to authorize the initial phase of the Washita Basin project (S. Rept. 1315), and H. R. 5731, to authorize Santa Margarita facilities, Calif. (S. Rept. 1322)(p. 5977).

7. TRANSPORTATION. Began debate on S. 1461, to expedite action by ICC upon applications of certain common carriers for rate increases (pp. 6014-19).
8. PERSONNEL; EXPENDITURES. The Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures submitted a report on employment in Feb. 1954 (pp. 5977-81).
9. FARM LOANS. Sen. Welker submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to S. 3245, the emergency farm loans bill (p. 5984).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

10. ELECTRIFICATION. S. 3434, by Sen. Bricker, to provide that charges shall be paid by Federal power projects which are benefited by stream improvements constructed by other parties; to Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee (p. 5982).
11. PERSONNEL. H. R. 9097, by Rep. Fulton, to provide a cost of living and increased productivity pay increase for employees under the Classification Act; to Post Office and Civil Service Committee (p. 6076).  
H. R. 9102, by Rep. Lesinski, to repeal the Whitten personnel amendment to Post Office and Civil Service Committee (p. 6076).
12. VEHICLES. H. R. 9101, by Rep. Pilcher, to authorize the purchase of liability insurance on Government vehicles; to Government Operations Committee (p. 6076).
13. FARM MACHINERY. H. R. 9100, by Rep. Martin, Iowa, to exempt farm equipment repair parts from the excise tax levied on automobile parts; to Ways and Means Committee (p. 6076).

#### COMMITTEE HEARINGS RELEASED BY GPO

14. FARM PROGRAM. S. 3052, to encourage a stable, prosperous, and free agriculture. Part II. S. Agriculture and Forestry Committee.
15. FOREIGN TRADE. East-West Trade. S. Foreign Relations Committee.
16. TRANSPORTATION. H. R. 3792, authorizing ICC to revoke, amend, or suspend water carrier certificates and permits. S. Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

#### BILL APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

17. THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ACT, 1954, H. R. 8481. Approved May 11, 1954 (Public Law 357, 83rd Cong.). This Act includes the following items: ACP payments for wind erosion control measures, \$15,000,000; increase of \$2,900,000 in administrative-expense limitation for CCC; Disaster Loan Revolving Fund, \$10,000,000 additional; fighting forest fires, \$4,500,000 additional; and FCA, \$120,000 additional.

#### SENATE (Continued)

18. TREASURY-POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1955. In reporting this bill, H. R. 7893 (see Digest 85), the committee included the following statements in its report:

Work for other agencies: "The committee agreed unanimously with the language contained on page 15 of the House report and especially emphasizes the following portion: 'It is felt that the agency having the responsibility for an



## AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURE AND INTERIOR TO TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DIS- POSE OF LAND IN THE EDEN PROJECT, WYOMING

MAY 11 (legislative day, APRIL 14), 1954.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BUTLER of Nebraska, from the Committee on Interior and  
Insular Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7057]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7057) to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

A complete explanation of the bill is contained in House Report No. 1305, which report is hereinbelow set forth and made a part of this report.

[H. Rept. No. 1305, 83d Cong., 2d sess.]

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, in order to assure the most beneficial application of the water supply available for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources.

The Eden project, located in Sweetwater County, Wyo., was originally authorized in 1940 and reauthorized in 1949. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to complete the land development and settlement features of the project. Lands within the project area include private lands, public-domain lands, State lands, and lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture for irrigation development and settlement.

Extensive land and soil surveys in the Eden project area reveal that some public domain and State lands are of better quality and more favorably located for irrigation purposes than portions of the lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, and that exchanges would be desirable. The surveys

## 2 TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT

also disclose that in several instances it would be desirable that private land be exchanged for public domain and lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture which are more adaptable for irrigation.

This bill would permit: (1) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to make cooperative agreements for the transfer of jurisdiction on lands owned by the United States, (2) the exchange of federally owned lands for private lands, and (3) the Secretary of Agriculture to dispose of transferred public lands within the project to the settlers in the same manner and upon the same conditions as the lands under his jurisdiction.

Further information is given in the favorable reports of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, which are set forth below:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1954.

Hon. A. L. MILLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR DR. MILLER: Your committee has requested a report from this Department on H. R. 7057, a bill to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

We recommend that this bill be enacted.

The Eden project, located in Wyoming, was originally authorized by the President on September 18, 1940, acting under the authority of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1940 (53 Stat. 685, 719). Construction of the Big Sandy Dam, the principal feature of the project, was terminated by order of the War Production Board in December 1942, when the dam was approximately 16 percent complete. The project was reauthorized by the act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), which also authorized the Secretary of the Interior to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to complete the land development and settlement features in accordance with the general plan approved by the President on September 18, 1940.

Lands within the project area include: (a) Private lands, (b) public-domain lands, (c) State lands and (d) lands patented to the State of Wyoming under the Carey Act but subsequently reconveyed to the United States and placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture for irrigation development and settlement, hereinafter referred to as acquired lands. Extensive land and soil surveys have been made in the Eden project area. These surveys reveal that some public domain and State lands are of better quality and more favorably located for irrigation purposes than portions of the acquired lands. Many farm units, as tentatively established, contain both public domain and acquired lands. Under the existing public-land laws, the Secretary of the Interior may dispose of public-domain lands only to settlers after homestead entry. He has no authority to transfer jurisdiction of such lands to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture, we understand, proposes to convey title to acquired lands to settlers upon payment of at least 5 percent of the purchase price and to take a mortgage to secure payment of the balance due. Obviously, it would be unsatisfactory to follow a procedure whereby the settler would receive a deed and give a purchase-money mortgage covering only a part of his farm and would make a homestead entry to obtain title to the remainder when, as a matter of fact, neither portion of the farm would constitute an economic farm unit by itself. Such procedure could lead to disintegration of many economic-sized farm units in the project.

Land and soil surveys disclose that private land may in several instances be exchanged for public domain and acquired lands which are more adaptable to irrigation. Similar exchanges would facilitate negotiations for rights-of-way required for the construction of the project works.

H. R. 7057 would permit: (a) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to make cooperative agreements for the transfer of jurisdiction of lands owned by the United States; (b) the exchange of federally owned lands for private lands; (c) the Secretary of Agriculture to dispose of the transferred public lands within the project to the settlers in the same manner and upon the same conditions as acquired lands; and (d) the Secretary of the Interior to administer the transferred and exchanged acquired lands as public lands, except lands needed for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the project irrigation facilities.



## TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT 3

The enactment of this bill would assure the most beneficial application of the water supply available for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there would be no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

FRED G. AANDAHL,  
*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1954.

Hon. A. L. MILLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. MILLER: This is in response to your request of January 8, 1954, for a report by this Department regarding H. R. 7057, a bill to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

The Eden project, located in the State of Wyoming, was originally authorized by the President on September 18, 1940, acting under the authority of the Interior Department Appropriation Act of 1940 (53 Stat. 685). Construction of the Big Sandy Dam, to provide the primary water supply, was terminated by order of the War Production Board in December 1942 when the dam was approximately 16 percent complete. The project was reauthorized by the act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), which directed the Secretary of the Interior to complete construction of the irrigation features of the project, and to negotiate a suitable repayment contract. The Secretary of Agriculture was authorized to complete the land development and settlement features in accordance with the general plan approved by the President on September 18, 1940.

The Department of the Interior has now completed the Big Sandy Dam and stored irrigation water is available in the reservoir. The canal and lateral system to deliver water to the land is partially constructed. The repayment contract between the Eden Valley Irrigation and Drainage District and the United States has been executed.

The Department of Agriculture is proceeding with the development of lands which can be served by the constructed portion of the new canal system. Because of a serious wind erosion problem, land clearing and leveling should not be done on this erosive type soil until irrigation water can be applied and the land protected by growing crops.

Lands within the project area include: (a) Private lands, (b) public domain, (c) State lands, and (d) lands hereinafter referred to as acquired lands, consisting of lands purchased from private owners, together with lands patented to the State of Wyoming under the Carey Act and subsequently reconveyed to the United States and placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, for irrigation development and settlement. Onsite studies by representatives of the two Departments have established the desirability of substituting some private lands, public domain, and State lands for portions of acquired lands. Informal agreements on the proposed exchanges have been reached among the agencies having administrative responsibility for the lands to be affected.

We are informed that, under the existing public-land laws, the Secretary of the Interior may dispose of public-domain lands to settlers under a homestead entry, but has no authority to transfer jurisdiction of such lands to the Secretary of Agriculture. Under present legislation, the Secretary of Agriculture has no authority to expend land-development funds, appropriated under water conservation and utilization legislation, for development and settlement of public-domain lands. H. R. 7057 would permit such lands in the Eden project to be developed and settled in the same manner and upon the same conditions as acquired lands by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to transfer jurisdiction of public-domain lands in the project to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Also, by authorizing the exchange of federally owned lands in the State of Wyoming for non-Federal lands within the project boundaries, and the transfer between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior of jurisdiction of lands within the project owned by the United States, the bill would permit the development and settlement of lands within the project area which are more adaptable to irrigation than some portions of the acquired lands; permit the consolidation of

#### 4 TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, AND DISPOSE OF LAND IN EDEN PROJECT

Federal holdings of lands in the project; and facilitate negotiations for rights-of-way required for construction, operation, and maintenance of the project works.

H. R. 7057 thus would permit the most beneficial application of the available water supply for the Eden project and the maximum utilization of the land resources. Enactment would permit the two Departments to immediately plan the most efficient and economical project-development program.

The Department strongly recommends that the bill be passed.

The Bureau of the Budget advised that, from the standpoint of the program of the President, there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

TRUE D. MORSE, *Under Secretary.*

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs recommends the enactment of H. R. 7057.

○

Calendar No. 1319

83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7057

[Report No. 1317]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16 (legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

MAY 11 (legislative day, APRIL 14), 1954

Reported by Mr. BUTLER of Nebraska, without amendment

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## AN ACT

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3        That, in order to assure the most beneficial application of  
4        the available water supply to lands within the Eden project,  
5        Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the  
6        item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects"  
7        in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10,  
8        1939 (53 Stat. 685, 719), as amended, including the Act  
9        of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land  
10       settlement and land use:

1       (a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized,  
2 in his discretion and when the public interest will be bene-  
3 fitted thereby—

4           (1) to exchange public lands in the State of  
5 Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the  
6 project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal  
7 value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
8 which are adaptable for use in the construction, opera-  
9 tion, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

10          (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agricul-  
11 ture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of  
12 Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries  
13 of the project which are suitable for development and  
14 settlement; and

15          (3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal hold-  
16 ings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in  
18 the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries  
19 of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately  
20 equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project  
21 which are suitable for development and, upon consum-  
22 mation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange  
23 shall thereupon become a part of the project and sub-  
24 ject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.



1       (b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized  
2 and directed—

3           (1) when in his judgment the public interests will  
4 be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his juris-  
5 diction within the exterior boundaries of the project  
6 for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value  
7 within the boundaries of the project which he finds are  
8 suitable for project development and settlement; and

9           (2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary  
11 of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are  
12 adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or  
13 maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are un-  
14 suited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus  
15 to the needs of the project.

16       (c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the  
17 Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a)  
18 (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sec-  
19 tions (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled,  
20 disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner  
21 as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred  
22 to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under  
23 the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under  
24 the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use  
25 in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project

1 irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received  
 2 in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall  
 3 be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all respects  
 4 the same as other project lands under his jurisdiction.

Passed the House of Representatives March 15, 1954.

Attest: LYLE O. SNADER,  
*Clerk.*

Calendar No. 1319

83<sup>d</sup> CONGRESS  
 2<sup>d</sup> Session

**H. R. 7057**

[Report No. 1317]

**AN ACT**

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

MARCH 16 (legislative day, MARCH 1), 1954  
 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

MAY 11 (legislative day, APRIL 14), 1954  
 Reported without amendment







# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued May 18, 1954  
For actions of May 17, 1954  
83rd-2nd, No. 90

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HIGHLIGHTS: Senate committee reported bills to amend Water Facilities Act and approve Southeastern Forest Fire Compact. Senate committee reported Farrington nomination to CCC Board. Senate passed bill on land management in Eden project, Wyo. Senate passed bill to modify Flammable Fabrics Act. House committee reported emergency farm loans bill. Reps. Jones and Hoffman criticized ASC committee operations in Mo. and Mich.

## SENATE

1. WATER FACILITIES LOANS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendments S. 3137, to increase the limit on individual loans under the Water Facilities Act and to make the Act applicable to the entire country (S. Rept. 1371)(p. 6258). Sen. Aiken gave a list of additional cosponsors of the bill (pp. 6258-9).
2. FORESTRY. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment S. 2786, granting the consent and approval of Congress to the Southeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact (S. Rept. 1372)(p. 6258).
3. CCC NOMINATION. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported the nomination of Robert L. Farrington to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation (p. 6271).
4. HOLIDAY. The Judiciary Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7786, to change the name of Armistice Day to "Veterans' Day" (S. Rept. 1359)(p. 6258).
5. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment H. R. 7057, to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyo. (p. 6282). This bill will now be sent to the President.
6. PUBLIC LANDS. Passed without amendment H. R. 6186, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant a preference right to users of withdrawn public lands for grazing purposes when the lands are restored from the withdrawal (p. 6286). This bill will now be sent to the President.



- H. R. 2512, to modernize the Small Tract Act, was placed at the foot of the calendar at the request of Sen. Smathers (p. 6287).
7. FLAMMABLE FABRICS. Passed without amendment S. 3379, to amend the Flammable Fabrics Act so as to exempt fabrics and wearing apparel which are not highly flammable (pp. 6284-5).
  8. RECLAMATION. Passed with amendments S. 118, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the Washita River Basin reclamation project, Okla. (pp. 6279-82).
  9. CIVIL DEFENSE. Passed with amendment H. R. 7308, which (as amended) would extend through June 30, 1958, the emergency powers of the Administrator of Civil Defense (p. 6290).
  10. VIRGIN ISLANDS. Passed with amendments S. 3378, to revise the Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (pp. 6292-7). The bill includes amendments to the animal and poultry quarantine laws (see Digest 88). H. R. 5181, as reported in the House on May 13, contains similar amendments.
  11. EDUCATION. Sen. Wiley spoke in favor of adequate funds to carry out the George-Barden Act regarding vocational education in agriculture, etc. (p. 6267).
  12. BANKING AND CURRENCY. Sen. Bush defended the Federal Reserve Board against recent criticism by Rep. Patman (pp. 6267-8).
  13. ELECTRIFICATION. S. 3090, to authorize transmission and disposition of electric energy generated at Falcon Dam, was discussed and passed over at the request of Sen. Morse (p. 6292).

#### HOUSE

14. FARM LOANS. The Agriculture Committee reported with amendment H. R. 6748, to eliminate the requirement that economic disaster loans be restricted to areas designated by the President, and make additional funds available for economic emergency loans (H. Rept. 1604) (p. 6348).  
Received a proposed bill from FCA to authorize the Central Bank for Cooperatives and the regional banks for cooperatives to issue consolidated debentures; to Agriculture Committee (p. 6348).
15. PUBLIC LANDS. Received the conference report on H. R. 1815, to amend the Recreation Act of June 14, 1926, so as to broaden the Interior Department's authority to make lands available for public purposes to States and local governments, or to nonprofit organizations intending to use such lands for public purposes (H. Rept. 1605) (pp. 6316-7).  
Passed as reported H. R. 7111, to authorize the grant or retrocession to a State of concurrent jurisdiction over Federal lands as may be necessary for roads and other rights-of-way (pp. 6321-2).
16. RECLAMATION. A subcommittee approved for reporting to the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee H. R. 236, authorizing construction of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project, Colo., and H. R. 8520, to provide for construction by Interior of the Ainsworth, Lavaca Flats, Mirage Flats, Extension, and O'Neill irrigation developments as units of the Missouri River Basin project (p. D539).



eral Government to State law in such situations as this where the Federal Government is seeking only to aid States.

Mr. MONRONEY. In the report from the Bureau of the Budget, where most of this legislation originated, it is stated:

Definite provision in legislation authorizing the project to be made for the repayment of all reimbursable costs. Construction of the project should be made contingent on the assumption by the State of Oklahoma—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator from Oklahoma has expired.

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may proceed for 4 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator from Oklahoma may proceed.

Mr. MONRONEY. I continue to read from the report of the Budget Bureau:

Construction of the project should be made contingent on the assumption by the State of Oklahoma, together with local organizations, of financial responsibility for repayment of costs allocated to municipal, industrial, and domestic water supplies that may be found to be beyond the ability of the water users to repay. The State should also be required to guarantee repayment for the cost allocated to future irrigation storage.

That is really the genesis of this project and where the firm commitments originated. Under this bill the State is pledging its taxing authority to repay in full, even beyond the ability of the water users, through their water bills, the full costs of the reimbursable parts of the structure, which include the water supply and storage for irrigation.

Reading further from the report, the Budget Bureau continues as follows:

Under this procedure the State and local organizations could utilize their powers of taxation or assessment to assure reimbursement to the Federal Government of the funds invested in municipal water and irrigation storage. We believe this is in harmony with the statement by the President in his address on the state of the Union.

\* \* \* The best natural resources program for America will not result from exclusive dependence on Federal bureaucracy. It will involve a partnership of the States and local communities, private citizens, and the Federal Government, all working together. This combined effort will advance the development of the great river valleys of our Nation and the power that they can generate.

So, Mr. President, I believe, if the distinguished Senator from Oregon would ask that the bill go to the foot of the calendar, so we could call the Budget Bureau and see if this is not the language they asked to have placed in the bill in recommending its passage by the Congress, I think that would be satisfactory.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. President, will the Senator from Oklahoma yield?

Mr. MONRONEY. I yield.

Mr. WATKINS. I do not know that I can throw any particular light on the question, but when a repayment contract is signed by municipalities and water users, they will be required, if they follow the ordinary reclamation procedure, to take over the projects and operate them, and if municipalities are organized

under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, and if water users are also being organized under those laws, I assume those are the laws under which they will be required to operate. I know that is true of a reclamation project in my State with which I have been familiar for many years. It was turned over to the water users upon completion and testing, and they are now operating it and have 40 years in which to pay for it. They are now in the repayment period.

Mr. MONRONEY. Is it paragraph (d) on page 5 of the bill to which the distinguished Senator from Oregon raised his objection?

Mr. CORDON. I raised my objection to paragraph (d) on page 5.

Mr. MONRONEY. It pertains to the municipal water supply and storage for which the water users agree to pay for irrigation, even though it is not used for irrigation. If municipal and county taxing authorities of the State are behind the contracts which are signed, not only a contract to supply X thousands of gallons of water, those authorities also has the right to levy a general ad valorem tax on property and real estate. That is also embodied in order to reimburse these funds for the water supply.

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, I shall have to object and ask that the bill be passed over, to be taken up at the next call of the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be passed over.

Mr. MONRONEY subsequently said: Mr. President, I have conferred with the Senator from Oregon [Mr. CORDON], and with the staff of the committee, and I ask unanimous consent that the Senate return to the consideration of calendar 1318, Senate bill 118.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the bill by title.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (S. 118) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the initial phase of the Washita River Basin reclamation project, Oklahoma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I have discussed the matter with the Senator from Oklahoma, and if it is agreeable to him that the language found on lines 6 to 9, inclusive, on page 5, be stricken from the bill, I think it will be satisfactory. I assume the bill will have to be considered as a new bill, and I ask unanimous consent that that may be done.

I am simply trying to save time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The understanding of the Chair is that the Senator from Oregon suggests or recommends that lines 6 through 9, on page 5, be stricken from the bill.

Mr. CORDON. That is correct. The Chair has a better understanding of the proposal than I have.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the committee amendments.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. On page 1, line 3, after the word "Interior", it is

proposed to strike out "may" and insert "is authorized"; in line 4, after the words "maintain the", to strike out "initial phase of the"; in line 7, after the word "and" where it occurs the second time, to strike out "ultimately,"; on page 2, line 5, after the word "The", to strike out "initial phase of the"; in line 11, after the word "use", to insert "and for irrigation"; in the same line, after the amendment just above stated, to strike out "Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to authorize the construction of any works solely for irrigation or for the enhancement of fish and wildlife conditions."; after line 14, to strike out:

SEC. 2. In constructing, operating, and maintaining the initial phase of the Washita project, the Secretary shall proceed in accordance with the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto) except that (1) the repayment period under any contract entered into pursuant to clause (1) of the first proviso in subsection (c), section 9, of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 may extend to not more than 50 years or as near thereto as is practicable; (2) actual construction of any unit of the project shall not be commenced, and no construction contract shall be awarded therefor, until payment of those portions of the actual cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining that unit of the project which are allocated to municipal, domestic, and industrial water supply, and interest on the unamortized balance of the construction cost thereof at a rate (which rate shall be certified by the Secretary of the Treasury) equal to the average rate paid by the United States on long-term loans outstanding prior to the time the repayment contract is negotiated, shall have been assured by a contract or contracts satisfactory to the Secretary; (3) those portions of the cost of constructing, operating, and maintaining the project which are properly allocable to flood control, recreation, and the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife shall be nonreturnable; and (4) that part of the cost of constructing the project which is properly allocable to irrigation shall, within the limits of the water users' repayment ability, become a part of the obligation to be undertaken by them when specific irrigation works are authorized and undertaken.

And in lieu thereof, to insert the following:

SEC. 2. In constructing, operating, and maintaining the Washita project, the Secretary shall allocate proper costs thereof under the following conditions:

(a) Allocations to flood control, recreation, and the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife shall be nonreturnable.

(b) Allocations to municipal water supply, including domestic, manufacturing, and industrial uses, shall be repayable through contracts with municipal corporations. Such contracts shall be precedent to the commencement of construction of any project unit affecting the individual municipalities, and shall provide for repayment of construction costs in not to exceed 50 years from the dates water is first delivered, and payments of construction costs shall include interest on unamortized balances at a rate equal to the average rate paid by the United States on long-term loans outstanding during the period of the construction, except that estimates may be used for minor costs not incurred prior to delivery of water: *Provided*, That such contracts shall provide that annual municipal repayments shall continue



at the same rates until the costs of Foss and Fort Cobb Reservoirs allocated to irrigation are fully repaid: *Provided further*, That if irrigation works are constructed, as herein-after provided, said annual repayment rates shall continue so long as the costs of the irrigation works are unpaid.

(c) The authorization for construction of the irrigation works, exclusive of Foss and Fort Cobb Reservoirs, shall be limited, as to each reservoir, to a period of 10 years from the commencement of the delivery of municipal water from the reservoir on which the irrigation unit is dependent. Contracts with irrigation water users shall provide for repayment in accordance with reclamation laws (act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), excepting section 9 (e) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, within a period of 55 years as to each irrigation unit, from the date water is first delivered thereto.

(d) The Secretary and the beneficiaries of the project shall conform to the laws of the State of Oklahoma in all matters appertaining to operation and management of the water supply facilities herein authorized.

On page 5, line 10, after the words "of the", to strike out "initial phase of the"; and on page 6, after line 7, to insert a new section, as follows:

SEC. 5. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated \$37,429,000 to carry out the purposes of this act.

So as to make the bill read:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the Washita River Basin reclamation project, Oklahoma, for the principal purposes of storing, regulating, and furnishing water for municipal, domestic, and industrial use, and for the irrigation of approximately 26,000 acres of land and of controlling floods and, as incidents to the foregoing, for the additional purposes of regulating the flow of the Washita River, providing for the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife, and of enhancing recreational opportunities. The Washita project shall consist of the following principal works: A reservoir at or near the Foss site on the main stem of the Washita River; a reservoir at or near the Fort Cobb site on Pond (Cobb) Creek; and canals, pipelines, and other conduits for furnishing water for municipal, domestic, and industrial use, and for irrigation.

SEC. 2. In constructing, operating, and maintaining the Washita project, the Secretary shall allocate proper costs thereof under the following conditions:

(a) Allocations to flood control, recreation, and the preservation and propagation of fish and wildlife shall be nonreturnable.

(b) Allocations to municipal water supply, including domestic, manufacturing, and industrial uses, shall be repayable through contracts with municipal corporations. Such contracts shall be precedent to the commencement of construction of any project unit affecting the individual municipalities, and shall provide for repayment of construction costs in not to exceed 50 years from the date water is first delivered, and payments of construction costs shall include interest on unamortized balances at a rate equal to the average rate paid by the United States on long-term loans outstanding during the period of the construction, except that estimates may be used for minor costs not incurred prior to delivery of water: *Provided*, That such contracts shall provide that annual municipal repayments shall continue at the same rates until the costs of Foss and Fort Cobb Reservoirs allocated to irrigation are fully repaid: *Provided further*, That if irrigation works are constructed, as hereinafter provided, said annual repayment

rates shall continue so long as the costs of the irrigation works are unpaid.

(c) The authorization for construction of the irrigation works, exclusive of Foss and Fort Cobb Reservoirs, shall be limited, as to each reservoir, to a period of 10 years from the commencement of the delivery of municipal water from the reservoir on which the irrigation unit is dependent. Contracts with irrigation water users shall provide for repayment in accordance with reclamation laws (act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), excepting section 9 (e) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, within a period of 55 years as to each irrigation unit, from the date water is first delivered thereto.

(d) The Secretary and the beneficiaries of the project shall conform to the laws of the State of Oklahoma in all matters appertaining to operation and management of the water supply facilities herein authorized.

SEC. 3. Construction of the Washita project herein authorized may be undertaken in such units or stages as in the opinion of the Secretary best serves the project requirements and the relative needs for water of the several prospective users. Repayment contracts negotiated in connection with each unit or stage of construction shall be subject to the terms and conditions of section 2 of this act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary may, upon conclusion of a suitable agreement with any qualified agency of the State of Oklahoma or a political subdivision thereof for assumption of the administration, operation, and maintenance thereof at the earliest practicable date, construct or permit the construction of public park and recreational facilities on lands owned by the United States adjacent to the reservoirs of the Washita project, when such use is determined by the Secretary not to be contrary to the public interest, all under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe. No recreational use of any area to which this section applies shall be permitted which is inconsistent with the laws of the State of Oklahoma for the protection of fish and game. The costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the facilities authorized by this section shall not be charged to or become a part of the costs of the Washita River Basin project.

SEC. 5. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$37,429,000 to carry out the purposes of this act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendments reported by the committee, with the exception of the amendment referred to by the Senator from Oregon [Mr. CORDON].

The amendments, with the exception noted were agreed to.

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, I now ask that the Senate reject the committee amendment on page 5, beginning in line 6, which reads as follows:

(d) The secretary and the beneficiaries of the project shall conform to the laws of the State of Oklahoma in all matters appertaining to operation and management of the water supply facilities herein authorized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment on page 5 from lines 6 to 9 is rejected.

The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and the third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and main-

tain the Washita River Basin reclamation project, Oklahoma."

#### DISPOSAL OF LAND IN THE EDEN PROJECT, WYOMING

The bill (H. R. 7057) to authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### CONSOLIDATION OF PARKER DAM POWER PROJECT AND THE DAVIS DAM PROJECT

The bill (H. R. 3598) to consolidate the Parker Dam power project and the Davis Dam project was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### TERMINATION OF FEDERAL SUPERVISION OVER PROPERTY OF ALABAMA AND COUSHATTA INDIANS OF TEXAS

The bill (S. 2744) to provide for the termination of Federal supervision over the property of the Alabama and Coushatta Tribes of Indians of Texas, and the individual members thereof; and for other purposes, was announced as next in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, with amendments.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. President, there are a number of committee amendments to this bill, which are mostly technical in nature. There is one amendment, however, which ought to be given special consideration. It is on page 2, beginning in line 18.

I ask unanimous consent that all the other committee amendments be considered en bloc, except the one to which I have just referred and which requires some special consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the committee amendments are agreed to en bloc.

The amendments agreed to en bloc are as follows:

On page 2, line 5, after the word "regarding", to strike out "management, use, or disposition" and insert "management and use"; in line 7, after the word "prescribe", to insert "and the disposition of such lands shall be subject to approval of a majority of the adult members of the Alabama and Coushatta Tribes of Texas."

On page 4, line 4, after the word "thereof," to insert "except as provided in section 2 of this act."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the committee amendment referred to by the Senator from Utah [Mr. WATKINS].

The CHIEF CLERK. On page 2, line 18, after the word "Indians", it is proposed to insert the following proviso:

*Provided*, That for a period of 5 years after the date of this act such Indians shall be eli-







Public Law 377 - 83d Congress  
Chapter 245 - 2d Session  
H. R. 7057

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to transfer, exchange, and dispose of land in the Eden project, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, in order to assure the most beneficial application of the available water supply to lands within the Eden project, Wyoming, established pursuant to the provisions of the item entitled "Water Conservation and Utility Projects" in the Interior Department Appropriation Act of May 10, 1939 (53 Stat. 685,719), as amended, including the Act of June 28, 1949 (63 Stat. 277), and to facilitate land settlement and land use:

Eden project,  
Wyo.  
Transfer of  
lands, etc.

All 68 Stat. 155.

All 68 Stat. 156.

(a) The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion and when the public interest will be benefited thereby—

(1) to exchange public lands in the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project which are adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities;

(2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture public lands within the exterior boundaries of the project which are suitable for development and settlement; and

(3) for the purpose of consolidating Federal holdings of lands in the project, upon concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture, to exchange public lands in the State of Wyoming, within or without the boundaries of the project, for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the exterior boundaries of the project which are suitable for development and, upon consummation of such exchange, the lands received in exchange shall thereupon become a part of the project and subject to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed—

(1) when in his judgment the public interests will be benefited thereby, to exchange lands under his jurisdiction within the exterior boundaries of the project for non-Federal lands of approximately equal value within the boundaries of the project which he finds are suitable for project development and settlement; and

(2) upon concurrence of the Secretary of the Interior, to transfer to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior lands or interests in lands which are adaptable for use in the construction, operation, or maintenance of project irrigation facilities, or are unsuited for incorporation into farm units and are surplus to the needs of the project.

(c) (1) The lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of section (a) (2) and received in exchange under the provisions of sections (a) (3) and (b) (1) shall be developed, settled, disposed of and otherwise administered in the same manner as acquired project lands; and (2) the lands transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of section (b) (2) shall be administered under the public land laws, excepting lands transferred for use in the construction, operation, or

maintenance of project irrigation facilities which, together with the lands received in exchange under the provisions of section (a) (1), shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in all respects the same as other project lands under his jurisdiction.

Approved May 28, 1954.



